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"The consolidation of our Union—the greatest interest of every true American."—Washington.

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Poetry.

PYRAMUS AND THISBE.

A CLASSIC LOVE STORY.—BY J. H. BARRETT.

This tragical tale, which they say is a true one, is old—but the manner is wholly a new one. One Ovid, a scribbler of some reputation, has told it before in tedious narrative. In a style, to be sure, of remarkable fallacy. But which nobody reads on account of its dullness.

Young PETER PYRAMUS—'I call him "Peter," Not for the sake of rhyme or metre. But merely to make the name complete— For Pyramus lived in the olden times, And in one of the worst of Pagan climes, That flourish now in classic fame—

Long before—
He was rather green,
And young Peter then was a young man,
As any young lady would wish to know;

In years I ween
That is to say he was just eighteen,
A little too short, and a trifle too lean,
But a "fine young man" as ever was seen,
And fit to dance with a May-day queen.
And Peter Pyramus—his name—
With a pretty maiden—she called her "dove"—
A little Miss THISBE, who lived next door—
(They slept, in fact, on the same floor,
With a wall between them and nothing more—
Those double-houses were common of yore—)
And they loved one another, the legends say,
In that very beautiful, beautiful way.

That every young maid
Are wont to love before they grow old,
And learn to love by the laws of trade;
But alas! a day for the girl and boy,
A little accident checked their joy,
And gave them, awhile, the deepest annoy;
For some good reason, which history cloaks,
The match didn't happen to suit the old folks!
So THISBE's father, and Peter's mother,
Began the couple to worry and bother,
And tried their innocent passion to smother.
By keeping the lovers from seeing each other!

Of a marriage deterred,
Or even deferred,
By any contrivance so very absurd,
As scolding the boys, and nagging his girl,
And by obstacles such as the timid appeal—
Convinced to discover a hole in the wall,
Which wasn't so thick,
But removing a brick,
Made a passage—also rather provokingly small.
Through this little chink the lover could greet her,
And secretly make his courtship the sweeter,
While Peter kissed THISBE and THISBE kissed Peter,
For kisses, like folks with diminutive noses, all breed
Will manage to creep in the smallest of holes!

'T was here that the lovers, intent upon love,
Laid a nice little plot
To meet at a spot
Near a mulberry-tree in a neighboring grove!

By the youth and the maid,
(Whose hearts, it would seem, were uncommonly
hold ones),
To run off and get married in spite of the old ones!
To the shadows of evening, as still as a mouse,
The beautiful maiden slipped out of the house,
The mulberry-tree impatient to find,
While Peter, the vigilant matron to find,
Strolled leisurely about some minutes behind.

While waiting along the tree,
A terrible lion
As e'er you set eye on,
Came roaring along, quite horrid to see,
And caused the young maiden in terror to flee!

(A lion's a creature, whose roar is a trade,
Blood—and "a terrible thing among the ladies!")
But losing her veil as she ran from the wood,
The monster belabored it over with blood,
Now Peter arriving, and seeing the veil
Lying dead, by the veil (which she happened to
know.)

She guessed in a moment the cause of his erring,
And seeing the lion
That had taken his life,
In less than a jiffy was dead as a herring!

Young gentlemen! pray recollect, if you please,
Not to make assignments near mulberry trees!
Should your mistress be missing, it's very ill bred
To be stalling yourself, till you know she is dead.
When your anxious mamma don't know you're out!
And remember that accidents often follow!

From kissing young fellows thru holes in the wall!
(Boston Post.)

THE PROSPECT FOR FRUIT.—The prospect for fruit has changed greatly since early in June. The sudden and extremely hot weather, with severe drought, cut short the strawberry crop one half. The same causes, with frequent cold north-east winds, greatly injured the cherries, causing large quantities to fall when partially grown. Apples, pears, and plums have been blasted to a great extent, and much injured by insects. On the whole, the fruit crop will be light, and owing to fears of the cholera, the demand is light also.

—New England Farmer.

A NOBLE SENTIMENT.—The more I am acquainted with agricultural affairs, the better I am pleased with men, inasmuch that I can nowhere find so great satisfaction as in those innocent and useful pursuits. In indulging those feelings, I am led to reflect how much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth, than all the vain glory which can be acquired from ravaging it by the most uninterrupted career of conquests.—Washington's Letters to Arthur Young

Miscellany.

MY UNCLE AND AUNT.

My Uncle Cooper always meant as well as any man; but he had no natural tact; his friends sometimes thought he never could learn by experience. He never remembered any mortification, and always looked at things as if looking through a tube, consequently, whatever was between him and the object did not fall within the range of his vision. All incidents disappointed him. The first notion he got, always clung to him—whatever he learned afterward was an addition, never wrought a change. His wife was doomed to perpetual disappointment and chagrin. She always trusted my uncle, who never had any doubt but he was right. But she never attempted to look forward; indeed it is doubtful whether her organs of sight were adapted to the element of futurity. But when a thing had been done, she was very capable of seeing it, and very capable of telling it. So my uncle and aunt went through the world, side by side to be sure, but one always looking forward, the other back. We used frequently to ask, "How can you two together except the best agreed?" but here there seemed to be a tacit agreement that they should differ.

"My dear," said my uncle one day, "tomorrow at four I am at leisure. We will have a ride on the pond." "Do, do," said my aunt. "I must have a ride. Only to think how things have gone to-day! I can't live without something to raise my spirits!"—and so on, with a recital of the occurrences of the day, entered on the memory at least once in fifteen minutes, with an accuracy that would put to the blush the notation of the chemist.

Four o'clock of the next day came; my aunt remembered it of course, and was ready exactly at the time. It happened that day that a man was determined to trade horses with my uncle. He was a Yankee, full of horse stories, and told them he would, from beginning to end. This had not been foreseen. Uncle Cooper did the best he could, but it was five before he got home. One of his best traits was, he never left a thing till he had finished it, consequently he had not had time to stop for dinner; of course, he must have it before he started. This he dispatched as soon as possible, for the pond was three miles distant, and there was no time to lose.

But they are ready, out of the door they go—out of the gate—but hark, "Why, Mr. Cooper, how do you suppose I am going to get there, where is your horse?"

"Why, my dear, I sold it this morning," said my aunt.

"I forgot my promise," said my uncle, with his accustomed coolness. "But we will walk along to neighbor Hillard's, he will no doubt accommodate us."

Mr. H. was a good man and assisted them with pleasure, and they were soon on the way in a carriage.

It was now growing late, and an overwhelming sense of the urgency of his errand, my uncle. He jerked the reins, whistled and whipped; and away they rattled over the stones, through the dust, without saying a word.

Meanwhile my aunt was thinking of her disappointment, allowing her vexation to be tinged with anger, that she could never learn to suspect such troubles beforehand. But, though she blamed herself, we will not, for she could not help it. They arrived at the boat-house by sunset, but they were too late. A party had taken the boats and were rolling at their ease on the water, and our friends must wait their pleasure or lose their ride. My uncle never left a thing after he had begun it. They lingered about the shore with all the composure they could command, till the boats came back. They were not long in getting in, when an opportunity presented itself, then with one prodigious push, the boat was thrust out from the shore; in the act my uncle lost his balance, reeled and caught the sides of the boat. This made it roll and dip—my aunt screamed, threw out her hands one side then the other, wet her arms—by and by, all so much water found its way into the boat, that they were obliged to take the utmost pains to keep their feet out of it. This made their position very inconvenient and tiresome.

Uncle Cooper worked hard, brained his hands, splattered the water, (for he was not very expert at rowing), and on the whole, they had a long ride for so short a time, and were both glad when it was done. They turned the carriage, got in and started for home.

A circumstance now occurred, which it will be readily allowed, neither could have been expected to foresee. It began to rain. They had no umbrella, they might have borrowed one, but they did not think of it. Each thought the other should have taken care that they were provided for. They hurried as much as possible, and as they had previously learned to overlook trifles, they suffered but little from the rain, though my uncle's hat was nearly spoiled. They reached Mr. Hillard's in as good spirits as when they left. Their kind neighbor advised them to stop with him, but that was out of the question, he then advised them to hurry on with the carriage as fast as possible, but my uncle had supposed before-hand he should leave it when he got there, and he never altered his mind. They were now happily relieved from all encumbrances, and only had to walk on as fast as circumstances would permit.

My aunt got her feet wet, for she had no overboots, and her dress was first splattered with mud from home, for the purpose of bringing them to her own house. No man liked to entertain friends better than he, but his tact at that was no better than in any thing else. On this occasion, his wife was very sure it was her duty to go with him. He was too indignant to deny the smallest thing, but his own way of granting it was always the best. His friends knew he was so abundantly supplied with baggage, that it would be necessary to send a man for that, while he should bring them in his own carriage. In truth, he could think of his own carriage only as crowded with company—of course he had no room to spare, and was obliged to leave his wife to come or move from home, for the purpose of bringing them to her own house. No man liked to entertain friends better than he, but his tact at that was no better than in any thing else. 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